

## **Working with Collaborators – Frequently Asked Questions**

### **My collaborators are at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an IRB review agreement with BIDMC which allows us to consider, on a study by study basis, whose IRB is in the best position to review a study when our PIs are collaborating. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to provide details of your study and to start a discussion about IRB review.

### **My collaborators are at the Children’s Hospital. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an IRB review agreement with Children’s Hospital which allows us to consider, on a study by study basis, whose IRB is in the best position to review a study when our PIs are collaborating. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to provide details of your study and to start a discussion about IRB review.

### **My collaborators are at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. Whose IRB should review our project?**

Partners, (BWH and MGH), has an IRB agreement with the [DFCI](#) which allows the DFCI to review oncology clinical trials on our behalf. The DFCI requires that their PIs or the use of their patients be reviewed by them. The DFCI does not accept our review. So when you are collaborating with folks from the DFCI, it is generally best to send your study to them for review or submit two separate studies: one to us and one to them.

### **My collaborators are at Faulkner Hospital. Whose IRB should review our project?**

Partners IRBs serve as the IRBs for Faulkner Hospital. Please submit your materials for IRB review as usual. (In the case of Oncology studies, see DFCI above.)

### **My collaborators are at the Harvard School of Public Health. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an IRB review agreement with HSPH which allows us to consider, on a study by study basis, which IRB is in the best position to review a study when our PIs are collaborating. The HSPH frequently cedes review to us and requires their investigators to submit documentation to them.

We also have a special agreement with them whereby they will review on our behalf studies involving prisoners as study subjects. If you are planning such a study or learn that one of your study subjects has become incarcerated, please contact the [IRB office](#) immediately to start this review process.

**My collaborators are at the Harvard Medical School. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an IRB review agreement with HMS which allows us to consider, on a study by study basis, which IRB is in the best position to review a study when our PIs are collaborating. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to provide details of your study and to start a discussion about IRB review.

**My collaborators are at the Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare Center. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We do not have any standing agreement with the HPHC. However, we and they are open to discussing these issues and determining when it is appropriate for one of us to cede review to the other. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to provide details of your study and to start a discussion about IRB review.

**My collaborators are at McLean Hospital. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an IRB review agreement with MCL which allows us to consider, on a study by study basis, which IRB is in the best position to review a study when our PIs are collaborating. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to provide details of your study and to start a discussion about IRB review.

**My collaborators are at Mass Eye and Ear Infirmary. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an IRB review agreement with MEEI which allows us to consider, on a study by study basis, whose IRB is in the best position to review a study when our PIs are collaborating. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to provide details of your study and to start a discussion about IRB review.

**My collaborators are at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an agreement with NWH that allows us to serve as the IRB for them in cases where they choose to cede review. You'll need to have your collaborator contact the [NWH IRB office](#) in order to start the process.

**My collaborators are at North Shore Medical Center. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an agreement with NSMC that allows us to serve as the IRB for them in cases where they choose to cede review. You'll need to have your collaborator contact the [NSMC IRB office](#) to start this process.

**My collaborators are at the Shriners' Hospital. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an agreement with Shriners which allows us to serve as their IRB. Submit all materials to the Partners IRB.

**My collaborators are at Sleep Health Centers in Brighton. They don't have an IRB, what do we do?**

We have an IRB review agreement with SHC which allows us to serve as their IRB when we are collaborating with researchers from SHC.

**My collaborators are at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. Whose IRB should review our project?**

We have an IRB review agreement with SRH which allows us to consider, on a study by study basis, which IRB is in the best position to review a study when our PIs are collaborating. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to provide details of your study and to start a discussion about IRB review.

**I have been approached by a small company who is the recipient of a federal grant. They would like to conduct their research project at our hospital (BWH, MGH or FH) but need an IRB. What do I tell them?**

In some instances, we will agree to serve as the IRB for a company that has received a federal grant. This does require a written and signed agreement as well as registering with the federal government. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to start this discussion. For in cases involving non federally funded studies, please contact the IRB office.

**My collaborators are independent of any hospital or university. Can we serve as their IRB?**

In some instances we will agree to serve as the IRB for an independent investigator. Please contact the [IRB office](#) to start this discussion.